BY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL ICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

Date:

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

Ira C. Felkner, et al.

Conf. No.:

8046

Group Art Unit:

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Appln. No.:

10/091,260

Examiner:

Ralph J. Gitomer

Filing Date:

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Attorney Docket No.:

61-2U5

Title:

METHODS, COMPOSITIONS AND KITS FOR BIOLOGICAL INDICATOR

OF STERILIZATION

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY **AMENDMENT**

This Response is provided in view of the Restriction Requirement mailed May 3, 2004 (marked "Part of Paper No./Mail Date 22040430"). It is timely filed on May 11, 2004, in advance of the deadline of June 3, 2004 set by the Examiner.

Also included is a Preliminary Amendment. It is requested that the Examiner examine the claims in the amended form.

A second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed with this Response.